

Appln No. 10/760,271
Amdt. Dated April 27, 2006
Response to Office Action of March 23, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of March 23, 2006 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the printhead capper drive assembly is configured to operatively engage with a capper assembly of the printer cartridge upon removable engagement of the cartridge with the cradle. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 12, line 6-page 14, line 3 of the present specification

independent claim 5 is cancelled; and

dependent claims 2-4 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to, nor any new issues to the prosecution of, the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

Regarding Claim 1

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Schalk et al. in view of newly cited Ando et al. (US 6,631,963), for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 has been further amended as discussed above to clarify that the rotor element drive assembly 145 of the cradle 4 of the present invention is configured to operatively engage with the rotor element 60 of the capping mechanism of the print cartridge 6 when the cartridge is removably engaged with the cradle, such that the single motor 110 drives operation of the capping mechanism via the rotor element drive assembly (see page 12, line 6-page 14, line 3 of the present specification).

Neither Schalk nor Ando teach or suggest such an arrangement. This is because, as admitted by the Examiner Schalk does not teach or suggest a cradle which is engageable with a printer cartridge and Ando merely discloses a printer 100 incorporating a line head

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120 (see col. 4, line 39-col. 5, line 11 of Ando), which does not constitute a print cartridge which is removably engageable with the printer.

Thus, in any combination of Schalk and Ando, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to configure a capper driving assembly of a cradle for operative engagement with a capper assembly of a removable engageable printer cartridge when the capper driving assembly is driven with the same motor which drives other mechanisms of the cradle.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-4 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Schalk or Ando either taken alone or in combination.

Regarding Claims 2 and 3

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 3 is not taught or suggested by Schalk and Ando further in view of Horikoshi, for at least the reasons discussed by the Applicant in the Reply to the previous Office Action with respect to Horikoshi.

Regarding Claim 4

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of dependent claim 4 is not taught or suggested by Schalk and Ando further in view of Hansen et al. (US 4,719,474) and Bauer (US 2003/0063151), because neither Hansen nor Bauer teaches nor suggests configuring a printhead capper drive assembly to operatively engage with a capper assembly of a printer cartridge removably engageable with a cradle, as is required by amended independent claim 1.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-4 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Schalk, Ando, Hansen or Bauer either taken alone or in combination.

Regarding Claim 5

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of claim 5 based on the above described amendment cancelling claim 5.

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It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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